



Director of
Central
Intelligence

~~Top Secret~~

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National Intelligence Daily

**Tuesday
6 January 1987**

(b)(3)

~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NID 87-004JX

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INDIA-PAKISTAN:**Status of Military Exercise**

Indian military forces are massing in the Rajasthan Desert for the final phase of the Brass Tacks training exercise, prompting continued Pakistani concern. [redacted]

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Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan told the Chinese during his visit to Beijing last week that the Indian exercise was a warning to Islamabad not to make problems in Punjab worse but that it was probably not a prelude to an attack [redacted]

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~~Pakistani Air Force officers have requested expedited delivery of key US munitions because of concerns over the Indian exercise.~~ [redacted]

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Comment: The Indians will have up to 175,000 men in the training area when the units now en route arrive in the next two weeks. This suggests that the Army has not cut back the size of the exercise to save money—as has been rumored in New Delhi—although tactical maneuvers by individual units may be curtailed. Plans call for one Indian Army corps to oppose a canal crossing and an armored breakout staged by another corps. [redacted]

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Pakistani officials are taking some steps to prepare for hostilities, despite their apparent belief that the maneuvers are not intended to mask an Indian attack. ~~They also will continue to use the exercise to press Washington for wider intelligence exchanges and quicker delivery of military equipment.~~ [redacted]

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